Claim 7, line 1, please replace "A" with --The--, and please replace "claim 1" with --claim 6--.

Claim 8, line 1, please replace "A" with --The--, and please replace "claim 1" with --claim 6--.

Claim 9, line 1, please replace "A" with --The--, and please replace "claim 1" with --claim 6--.

Claim 10, line 1, please replace "A" with --The--.

Claim 11, line 1, please replace "A" with --The--, and please replace "claim 1" with --claim 10--.

Claim 12, line 1, please replace "A" with --The--, and please replace "claim 1" with --claim 11--.

Claim 13, line 1, please replace "A" with --The--.

Claim 14, line 1, please replace "A" with --The--.

A1 15. (Amended) A process for preparing a low molecular weight polyethylenimine (LMW PEI) having a molecular weight of less than 50,000 Da, which comprises polymerizing monomeric ethylenimine [being polymerized] in aqueous solution by [adding] the addition of hydrochloric acid.

A2 23. (Amended) [The use of a vector as claimed in claim 22] The process for introducing a nucleic acid into a cell as claimed in claim 35, wherein the cell is an endothelial cell, a lymphocyte, a macrophage, a liver cell, a fibroblast, a muscle cell or an epithelial cell.

A3 30. (Amended) A process for preparing a pharmaceutical, which comprises mixing a nucleic acid with [an] a low molecular weight polyethylenimine (LMW PEI).

A4 32. (Amended) A pharmaceutical which comprises [an] a low molecular

weight polyethylenimine (LMW PEI) as claimed in claim 19.

Please add the following new claims into the application:

--34. A process for preparing a low molecular weight polyethylenimine (LMW PEI) having a molecular weight of less than 50,000 Da, which comprises polymerizing monomeric ethylenimine in aqueous solution by acid catalysis.

35. A process for introducing a nucleic acid into a cell, which comprises transfecting a cell with the vector as claimed in claim 1.

36. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the transfected cell as claimed in claim 25 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

37. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a low molecular weight polyethylenimine as claimed in claim 19 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

38. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the vector as claimed in claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

39. A method for preventing or treating a disease which comprises administering the transfected cell as claimed in claim 25 to a host in need thereof and expressing the nucleic acid construct in the host.

40. A method for preventing or treating a disease which comprises introducing the vector as claimed in claim 1 into a cell, and administering the cell to a host in need thereof.

41. A method for treating a disease which comprises complexing a low molecular weight polyethylenimine as claimed in claim 19 with a nucleic acid construct to form a complex, inserting the complex into a target cell, administering the transfected target cell to a host in need thereof and expressing the nucleic acid construct in the target cell.